

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Kazukiyo AKASHI, et al.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
 (Filed Herewith)
Filed: June 26, 2003)
For: TONER RESIDUAL AMOUNT June 26, 2003
 DETECTION APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

FORMAL MATTERS

No fee is believed to be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

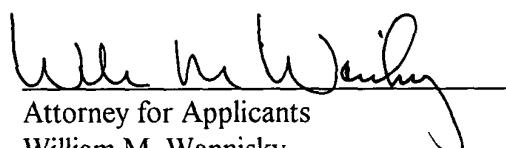
The cited art generally relates to residual toner detection. However, the cited art does not disclose changing a reference value, which is to be compared with a sensor output, to a smaller value when it is determined that a residual toner amount is not sufficient.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned with the next official communication indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
William M. Wannisky
Registration No. 28,373

30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
WMW/kkv

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FORM PTU 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017357	APPLICATION NO. Unassigned (Filed Herewith)		
Date submitted to the PTO: June 26, 2003				APPLICANT KAZUKIYO AKASHI, ET AL.			
				FILING DATE June 26, 2003	GROUP Unassigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,790,917	8/4/1998	Takura et al.	399	27	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		6-95256	4/8/1994	Japan			Abstract
		8-220865	8/30/1996	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							

**EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.*

WMW/kkv

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Sheet 1 of 1